

**CONFIGURING A NETWORK DEVICE**

**ABSTRACT**

A system includes a first network device which receives a  
5 request for configuration information, a second network  
device, and a third network device which issues the request.  
The first network device is configured to respond to the  
request within a first time period and the second network  
device is configured to respond to the request within a second  
10 time period if the first network device does not respond to  
the request within the first time period.

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